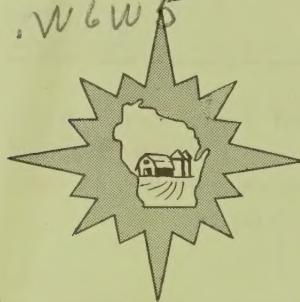


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April 1972

Cream of the News

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during March was up 4 percent from a year ago and the highest output for that month in the last seven years.

Wholesale prices of Swiss and cheddar cheese at Wisconsin assembly points increased from February to March.

Total cheese production in the Nation during February was 17 percent greater than a year earlier.

Barrow and gilt prices at the St. Paul market declined \$2.11 a hundredweight in March but were well above last year.

Red meat production in Wisconsin's commercial slaughter plants during February was 10½ percent above the previous year as an increased output of beef offset a decline in the pork supply.

The index of prices received for Wisconsin farm products at mid-March was 26 points higher than a year ago with milk and meat animal prices leading the increase.

As the spring season began, the number of workers on Wisconsin farms was down about 3½ percent from last year due to a decline in family workers.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in March are expected to show an increase from February in contrast to the usual decline.

The total pounds of meat animals marketed by Wisconsin farmers in 1971 were up 3 percent from 1970 but cash receipts from these marketings declined 4 percent.

Stocks of meat and dairy products in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of March were below a year ago.

Cattle on feed for slaughter in the 23 major feeding states totaled 12,792,000 head up 9 percent from a year ago. Cattle feeders in these states expressed intentions to market 6 percent more cattle in the next 3 months (April – June) than the same period last year.

MARCH MILK PRODUCTION HIGHEST SINCE 1965

Production of milk on Wisconsin farms during March totaled 1,712 million pounds, the most for that month in the last seven years. Milk production increased 14½ percent from February to March this year and was 4 percent above March 1971.

During the first quarter of 1972, milk production on Wisconsin farms was up 3 percent from the comparable quarter a year earlier. An increase in the number of milk cows and a greater production per cow has been responsible for the higher milk output. Production per cow for March averaged 915 pounds, 25 pounds more than the previous year.

Daily feeding of grain and other concentrates to Wisconsin milk cows averaged 14.6 pounds per cow on April 1 compared with 12 pounds a year earlier.

The Nation's milk production for March was up 2 percent from the last year. Daily average production for March was nearly 5 percent more than February. A year ago daily average milk production showed a gain of about 3 percent from February to March. Output per cow averaged 852 pounds for March, an increase of 3 percent from the previous year. Feeding of grain and concentrates averaged 13.6 pounds on April 1, up from 12.2 pounds fed on that date in 1971.

Milk Production

Selected States	March 1971	March 1972	Jan.-March 1972	Change from last year	
				March	Jan.-March
Million pounds					
Wisconsin	1,647	1,712	4,747	+ 4	+ 3
Minnesota	950	941	2,635	- 1	n.c.
Iowa	391	392	1,120	n.c.	n.c.
New York	910	909	2,566	n.c.	n.c.
Pennsylvania	610	626	1,788	+ 3	+ 3
California	806	851	2,364	+ 6	+ 4
Other states	4,909	5,009	14,201	+ 2	+ 2
United States	10,223	10,440	29,421	+ 2	+ 2

AMERICAN CHEESE PRODUCTION TO REMAIN WELL ABOVE LAST YEAR

Based on weekly receipts of milk by dairy plants, production of American cheese in both Wisconsin and the Nation

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during March will continue substantially higher than a year ago. The Nation's output of American cheese in March is expected to show a 17 percent increase from the previous year. February's production was also up 17 percent. Cheese plants in Wisconsin may produce nearly a fifth more American cheese in March than a year earlier, following a gain of 13 percent in February. National output of American cheese has exceeded the previous year since July 1969.

Weekly milk receipts indicate that butter production in the Nation during March will be about 5 percent lower than last year. February's National butter output was up 2 percent because of the extra day in February this year. Wisconsin's butter production for March dropped considerably under a year ago near the end of the month and may average below March 1971.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1972	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1972	Change from last year	Change from last year
February . .	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
Jan. Feb. . .	99,390	+ 2	- 1	122,885	+ 17'	+ 13
	200,865	n.c.	- 2	246,845	+ 13	+ 9
Weeks ending						
March 9.	23,450	- 3	+ 7	32,200	+ 16	+ 17
March 16.	23,150	- 5	- 1	33,350	+ 18	+ 19
March 23.	23,950	- 4	- 1	33,750	+ 15	+ 18
March 30.	24,300	- 6	- 10	35,250	+ 18	+ 20
Total . . .	94,850	- 5	XXX	134,550	+ 17	XXX

MILK PRICE UP IN MARCH

Wisconsin farmers are expected to receive an average of \$5.50 a hundredweight for all milk sold in March. This would be an increase of 3 cents from February in contrast to the usual seasonal decline. In 1971 milk prices dropped 1 cent from February to March.

Milk prices in February averaged \$5.47 a hundredweight, down 1 cent from the previous month but 16 cents higher than February 1971. The average milkfat content for February was 3.74 percent, the same as a year earlier.

Grade A milk producers received an average of \$5.63 a hundredweight in February, a decline of 3 cents from January but 8 cents above a year ago. Manufacturing grade milk, at

\$5.28 a hundredweight, was up 1 cent from a month earlier and was 23 cents more than February 1971. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 35 cents in February compared with 50 cents a year ago.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	January 1972		February price per cwt.			March 1972 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1971	1972	72/71 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . .	3.77	5.48	5.31	5.47	+ 3	5.50
Minnesota . . .	3.65	5.11	4.93	5.12	+ 4	5.13
Iowa . . .	3.83	5.39	5.23	5.41	+ 3	5.35
New York . . .	3.66	6.35	6.20	6.35	+ 2	6.10
California . . .	3.85	5.95	5.55	5.75	+ 4	5.60
United States . .	3.79	6.13	5.91	6.10	+ 3	6.02
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.77	5.66	5.55	5.63	+ 1	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.77	5.27	5.05	5.28	+ 5	XXX
Creameries . . .	3.74	5.18	5.03	5.18	+ 3	XXX
Cheese factories . .	3.77	5.29	5.06	5.30	+ 5	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.75	5.22	5.04	5.20	+ 3	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Feb. 1971	Jan. 1972	Feb. 1972 2/	Change from last year
				Dollars per cwt.
Milk for all uses . . .	4.97	5.09	5.12	+ 3
Market milk . . .	5.18	5.25	5.27	+ 2
Manufacturing milk . . .	4.75	4.89	4.96	+ 4
Creameries . . .	4.71	4.85	4.91	+ 4
American cheese plants . . .	4.75	4.91	4.97	+ 5
Varied products plants . . .	4.73	4.87	4.89	+ 3
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone 3/ .	5.47	5.59	5.60	+ 2

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary. 3/Includes Milwaukee County, Wisconsin and Winnebago County, Illinois.

BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION HIGHER

Production of butter and cheese in the Nation during February was above a year earlier. Creameries churned 2 percent more butter in February than a year ago while cheese plants increased their output 17 percent. Production of both ice cream and cottage cheese during February was up 6 percent from last year. Some of this increased production of dairy products was due to the extra day in February this year.

Wisconsin creameries churned 1 percent less butter in February than a year earlier. Butter output in Minnesota during February was down 3 percent from the previous year. Iowa's butter production for February showed little change from last year but all other states were up 5 percent.

American cheese production in the Nation during February increased 17 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin's output of American cheese in February was 13 percent above the previous year while Minnesota had a gain of 30 percent. Missouri increased its American cheese production 9 percent from February 1971 and the other states were up 19 percent.

National production of Swiss, Brick and Muenster, and Italian cheese in February was more than a fifth greater than last year. Output of all other varieties during February was down 2 percent from the previous year.

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Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Feb. 1971	Feb. 1972	Jan.- Feb. 1972	Change from last year	
				Feb.	Jan.-Feb.
			1,000 pounds	Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	17,650	17,540	34,440	- 1	- 2
Minnesota	25,420	24,700	49,100	- 3	- 6
Iowa	7,700	7,720	15,420	n. c.	- 3
Other states	47,005	49,430	101,905	+ 5	+ 4
United States	97,775	99,390	200,865	+ 2	n. c.
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	49,350	56,000	112,000	+ 13	+ 9
Minnesota	12,205	15,900	31,930	+ 30	+ 26
Missouri	4,600	5,000	10,680	+ 9	+ 8
Other states	38,655	45,985	92,235	+ 19	+ 14
United States	104,810	122,885	246,845	+ 17	+ 13
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	10,730	13,250	27,150	+ 23	+ 26
Brick and Muenster	4,700	5,900	11,730	+ 26	+ 19
Limburger	225	195	435	- 13	- 11
Italian	33,775	40,930	79,430	+ 21	+ 15
All other	14,500	14,175	30,730	- 2	+ 3
Total	63,930	74,450	149,475	+ 16	+ 14
ALL CHEESE					
United States	168,740	197,335	396,320	+ 17	+ 13
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	60,995	64,620	127,455	+ 6	+ 5
Creamed 2/	81,515	86,115	169,340	+ 6	+ 4
			1,000 gallons	Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,380	1,400	2,775	+ 1	- 2
Illinois	2,715	2,650	5,270	- 2	- 7
Iowa	535	560	1,120	+ 5	+ 5
Michigan	2,590	2,780	5,170	+ 7	+ 1
Minnesota	1,940	2,230	4,210	+ 15	+ 8
Other states	44,640	47,460	92,315	+ 6	+ 5
United States	53,800	57,080	110,860	+ 6	+ 4

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

FEWER FAMILY WORKERS ON FARMS THIS SPRING

As the spring season began, the number of workers on Wisconsin farms was down about 3½ percent. During the survey week of March 19–25, the State's farm labor force consisted of 16,000 hired workers and 156,000 farm operators and unpaid family members. The number of hired workers was

Farm Workers and Wages Wisconsin and United States

Item	Wisconsin		United States	
	1971	1972	1971	1972
March				
Farm Workers 1/				
Hired	16,000	16,000	825,900	878,900
Family	162,000	156,000	3,068,100	3,033,100
Total	178,000	172,000	3,894,000	3,912,000
April 1				
	1971	1972	1971	1972
Wage Rates 2/				
By the month				
With house	\$365.00	\$383.00	\$331.00	\$351.00
With board and room	270.00	293.00	258.00	274.00
By the day				
With board and room	11.30	11.60	10.40	11.10
Without board or room	14.60	15.20	11.80	12.70
By the hour				
No board or room	1.81	1.87	1.76	1.84

1/Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above.

the same as a year earlier and averaged nearly one person for every seven Wisconsin farms. Family workers were 6,000 fewer than in the comparable survey week last year.

Wages paid to hired help continued to increase. Wage rates as of April 1 averaged \$383.00 a month with a house and \$293.00 with board and room. Rates with a house were up \$18.00 from a year ago while rates with board and room increased \$23.00.

Hired workers employed by the day were receiving an average of \$11.60 with board and room and \$15.20 without board or room. Hourly rates averaged \$1.87 without board or room, a gain of 6 cents from April 1, 1971.

WHOLESALE CHEESE PRICES HIGHER

Wholesale prices of Swiss and cheddar cheese at Wisconsin assembly points increased from February to March. Block Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 72½ cents a pound during March. This was 2 cents more than in February and nearly 7½ cents above March 1971. Cheddar cheese, 40 pound blocks, averaged 59.65 cents a pound for March, almost 1 cent higher than the previous month and a gain of 1½ cents from last year.

Wholesale prices of 92-score butter at New York averaged 68¾ cents a pound in March, unchanged from a month earlier but 2 cents below a year ago.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	March 1971	February 1972	March 1972 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound	70.73¢	68.75¢	68.75¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/	58.13¢	58.69¢	59.65¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/	65.10¢	70.50¢	72.50¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$8.00–8.60	\$7.70–9.10	\$—
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	27.21¢	31.41¢	31.44¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

BUTTER AND CHEESE STOCKS LOWER

Stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of March were below a year earlier. There were 107 million pounds of butter in cold storage on March 31, about a third less than on that date in 1971. The Government owned 72½ million pounds of butter in cold storage, 43 percent less than on March 31, 1971.

Total cheese in cold storage at the end of March amounted to 286 million pounds, 5 percent under a year earlier. American cheese stocks were down 6 percent from last year while supplies of Swiss cheese were down 44 percent. Stocks of all other cheese were 5 percent higher than on March 31 a year ago.

American cheese stocks in cold storage totaled nearly 223 million pounds at the end of March, the lowest for that date since 1953. The 6½ million pounds of Swiss cheese in cold storage was the least for any month since June 1958. The Government had 879,000 pounds of American cheese in cold storage on March 31 compared with 930,000 pounds a year earlier.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	March 31, 1970	March 31, 1971	March 31, 1972	Change from last year
1,000 pounds			Percent	
UNITED STATES				
Butter	91,106	157,906	107,033	- 32
Cheese, American	238,899	236,281	222,819	- 6
Cheese, Swiss	10,472	11,599	6,481	- 44
Cheese, all other	36,821	54,247	56,896	+ 5
Cheese, total	286,192	302,127	286,196	- 5
WISCONSIN				
Butter	1,808	5,707	4,774	- 16
Cheese, American	138,000	145,681	147,298	+ 1
GOVERNMENT STOCKS*				
Butter	63,125	126,940	72,552	- 43
Cheese, American	355	930	879	- 5

*Included in above totals.

WOOL PRODUCTION AND PRICE DECLINE

Wool production for 1971 totaled 960,000 pounds —

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products
United States

Commodity	Feb. 28, 1970	Feb. 28, 1971	Feb. 29, 1972	Change from last year
1,000 pounds			Percent	
Dried whole milk	5,589	4,768	4,044	- 15
Dried skim milk	78,075	99,920	69,157	- 31
Dried buttermilk	7,766	10,147	3,855	- 62
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ .	85,080	69,390	63,841	- 8

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

down 5 percent from 1970. This is the smallest wool crop on record for Wisconsin. The number of sheep shorn during 1971 amounted to 119,000, a decline of 6 percent from the previous year. The fleece weight averaged 8.1 pounds last year while for 1970 the average was 8.0 pounds. Wool prices weakened considerably in 1971 in Wisconsin and all of the States. The Wisconsin average of 23 cents per pound compares with 19.6 cents for the Nation.

Cattle and Calves: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1962-71

Year	Production 1/	Marketings 2/	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts	Value of home consumption	Gross income	Cost of inshipments
			Cattle	Calves				
1,000 pounds			Dollars		1,000 dollars			
1962	998,960	950,430	15.60	24.70	162,704	8,223	170,927	7,869
1963	1,025,325	939,565	14.80	24.00	153,755	8,294	162,049	7,166
1964	1,106,965	999,605	13.70	22.30	149,881	7,856	157,737	5,708
1965	1,054,655	1,216,095	14.70	23.60	192,568	8,071	200,639	5,572
1966	988,845	1,067,093	17.90	28.40	205,751	9,853	215,604	9,139
1967	998,875	1,017,580	17.90	29.00	197,730	10,849	208,579	8,593
1968	984,850	1,002,279	18.50	31.30	203,775	10,839	214,614	8,286
1969	975,645	971,847	21.10	34.50	224,109	14,231	238,340	11,638
1970	1,036,878	942,058	22.00	38.10	230,039	18,161	248,200	14,256
1971	1,050,058	939,512	22.50	39.80	237,335	19,594	256,929	3/

Hogs: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1962-71

Year	Production 1/	Marketings 2/	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts	Value of home consumption	Gross income	Cost of inshipments
			Cattle	Calves				
1,000 pounds			Dollars		1,000 dollars			
1962	713,073	676,208	15.90	108,087	4,551	112,638	42	
1963	761,427	742,772	14.60	108,726	3,747	112,473	26	
1964	718,763	742,322	14.60	108,247	3,659	111,906	36	
1965	637,624	640,682	19.80	127,022	3,174	130,196	47	
1966	679,421	633,126	22.50	142,453	3,341	145,794	122	
1967	673,457	657,497	18.60	122,294	3,038	125,332	81	
1968	719,472	706,649	18.30	129,317	3,352	132,669	30	
1969	675,337	674,744	21.90	147,899	3,548	151,317	84	
1970	716,388	678,160	22.50	152,586	3,544	156,130	96	
1971	722,038	727,317	17.80	129,462	2,703	132,165	3/	

Sheep and Lambs: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1962-71

Year	Production 1/	Marketings 2/	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts	Value of home consumption	Gross income	Cost of inshipments
			Sheep	Lambs				
1,000 pounds			Dollars		1,000 dollars			
1962	13,977	17,110	4.30	16.50	2,554	33	2,587	229
1963	12,809	16,022	4.50	17.20	2,445	34	2,479	200
1964	11,847	14,467	4.70	19.00	2,467	37	2,504	210
1965	12,036	13,713	5.20	21.20	2,684	44	2,728	236
1966	11,346	12,647	5.60	22.00	2,591	60	2,651	367
1967	11,857	12,804	5.30	20.90	2,471	51	2,522	181
1968	11,680	13,763	5.30	23.30	2,798	60	2,858	291
1969	10,257	13,272	6.70	26.50	2,994	37	3,031	287
1970	9,796	12,211	6.20	25.10	2,657	35	2,692	265
1971	8,577	10,067	5.60	24.80	2,231	35	2,266	3/

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales. 3/Discontinued.

Spring and Fall Sows Farrowing and Pig Crops, Wisconsin, by Counties, 1971

County	Spring			Fall			Total	
	Sows farrowing	Pigs per litter	Pigs saved	Sows farrowing	Pigs per litter	Pigs saved	Pigs saved	Rank
	Number			Number			Number	
Barron	1,000	7.6	7,600	1,000	8.3	8,300	15,900	49
Bayfield	50	7.0	350	50	8.0	400	750	68*
Burnett	300	7.7	2,300	300	8.3	2,500	4,800	57
Chippewa	1,600	7.6	12,200	1,600	8.3	13,300	25,500	37
Douglas	50	7.0	350	50	8.0	400	750	68*
Polk	1,250	7.6	9,500	1,250	8.3	10,350	19,850	46
Rusk	250	7.6	1,900	250	8.2	2,050	3,950	58
Sawyer	150	7.7	1,150	150	8.3	1,250	2,400	59*
Washburn	150	7.7	1,150	150	8.3	1,250	2,400	59*
Northwest District	4,800	7.60	36,500	4,800	8.29	39,800	76,300	
Ashland	100	8.0	800	100	8.0	800	1,600	62
Clark	3,100	7.8	24,200	3,100	7.8	24,200	48,400	22
Iron	50	8.0	400	50	8.0	400	800	65*
Lincoln	400	7.8	3,100	400	7.8	3,100	6,200	56
Marathon	2,700	7.8	21,050	2,700	7.8	21,050	42,100	25
Oneida	50	8.0	400	50	8.0	400	800	65*
Price	150	7.7	1,150	150	7.7	1,150	2,300	61
Taylor	600	7.8	4,700	600	7.8	4,700	9,400	54
Vilas	50	8.0	400	50	8.0	400	800	65*
North Central District	7,200	7.81	56,200	7,200	7.81	56,200	112,400	
Florence	100	7.0	700	100	8.0	800	1,500	63*
Forest	50	7.0	350	50	8.0	400	750	68*
Langlade	100	7.0	700	100	8.0	800	1,500	63*
Marinette	800	7.2	5,750	800	8.1	6,500	12,250	52
Menominee								
Oconto	1,500	7.2	10,800	1,500	8.1	12,150	22,950	43
Shawano 1/	2,250	7.2	16,300	2,250	8.1	18,250	34,550	30
Northeast District	4,800	7.21	34,600	4,800	8.10	38,900	73,500	
Buffalo	4,200	7.8	32,750	4,100	8.1	33,200	65,950	13
Dunn	3,100	7.8	24,200	3,050	8.1	24,700	48,900	19
Eau Claire	1,350	7.8	10,550	1,300	8.1	10,550	21,100	44
Jackson	1,650	7.8	12,850	1,600	8.1	12,950	25,800	36
La Crosse	2,600	7.8	20,300	2,500	8.1	20,250	40,550	26
Monroe	1,900	7.8	14,800	1,850	8.1	15,000	29,800	33
Pepin	1,500	7.8	11,700	1,500	8.1	12,150	23,850	41
Pierce	3,450	7.8	26,900	3,350	8.1	27,150	54,050	16
St. Croix	1,650	7.8	12,850	1,650	8.1	13,350	26,200	35
Trempealeau	3,400	7.8	26,500	3,300	8.1	26,700	53,200	17
West Central District	24,800	7.80	193,400	24,200	8.10	196,000	389,400	
Adams	550	7.7	4,250	550	7.8	4,300	8,550	55
Green Lake	3,600	7.7	27,700	3,600	7.8	28,100	55,800	15
Juneau	1,550	7.7	11,950	1,550	7.8	12,100	24,050	40
Marquette	1,700	7.7	13,100	1,700	7.8	13,250	26,350	34
Portage	1,600	7.7	12,300	1,600	7.8	12,500	24,800	38
Waupaca	3,150	7.7	24,250	3,150	7.8	24,500	48,750	21
Waushara	1,500	7.7	11,550	1,500	7.8	11,700	23,250	42
Wood	1,250	7.7	9,600	1,250	7.8	9,750	19,350	47
Central District	14,900	7.70	114,700	14,900	7.80	116,200	230,900	
Brown	2,400	7.4	17,750	2,400	8.0	19,200	36,950	28
Calumet	1,600	7.4	11,850	1,600	8.0	12,800	24,650	39
Door	900	7.4	6,650	900	8.0	7,200	13,850	50
Fond du Lac	6,600	7.4	48,850	6,600	8.0	52,800	101,650	10
Kewaunee	2,200	7.4	16,300	2,200	8.0	17,600	33,900	31
Manitowoc	2,850	7.4	21,100	2,850	8.0	22,800	43,900	24
Outagamie	4,800	7.4	35,500	4,800	8.0	38,400	73,900	12
Sheboygan	3,450	7.4	25,500	3,450	8.0	27,600	53,100	18
Winnebago	2,000	7.4	14,800	2,000	8.0	16,000	30,800	32
East Central District	26,800	7.40	198,300	26,800	8.00	214,400	412,700	
Crawford	5,100	7.5	38,250	5,000	7.3	36,500	74,750	11
Grant	28,000	7.5	210,000	27,500	7.3	200,700	410,700	1
Iowa	10,800	7.5	81,000	10,800	7.3	78,850	159,850	6
Lafayette	17,500	7.5	131,250	17,200	7.3	125,550	256,800	2
Richland	3,300	7.5	24,750	3,300	7.3	24,100	48,850	20
Sauk	7,000	7.5	52,500	7,000	7.3	51,100	103,600	9
Vernon	3,100	7.5	23,250	3,100	7.3	22,600	45,850	23
Southwest District	74,800	7.50	561,000	73,900	7.30	539,400	1,100,400	
Columbia	7,100	7.6	53,900	7,000	7.5	52,500	106,400	8
Dane	16,200	7.6	123,100	16,200	7.5	121,500	244,600	3
Dodge	12,300	7.6	93,500	12,300	7.5	92,250	185,750	5
Green	13,400	7.6	101,800	13,200	7.5	99,000	200,800	4
Jefferson	3,900	7.6	29,600	3,900	7.5	29,250	58,850	14
Rock	7,800	7.6	59,300	7,800	7.5	58,500	117,800	7
South Central District	60,700	7.60	461,200	60,400	7.50	453,000	914,200	
Kenosha	900	7.4	6,650	900	7.9	7,100	13,750	51
Milwaukee	50	7.0	350	50	8.0	400	750	68*
Ozaukee	1,350	7.4	10,000	1,350	7.9	10,650	20,650	45
Racine	1,200	7.4	8,900	1,200	7.9	9,500	18,400	48
Walworth	2,500	7.4	18,500	2,400	7.9	18,950	37,450	27
Washington	2,400	7.4	17,800	2,300	7.9	18,200	36,000	29
Waukesha	800	7.4	5,900	800	7.9	6,300	12,200	53
Southeast District	9,200	7.40	68,100	9,000	7.90	71,100	139,200	
State	228,000	7.56	1,724,000	226,000	7.63	1,725,000	3,449,000	

1/Includes Menominee. *Tied.

FEWER CATTLE ON FEED IN WISCONSIN

Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 130,000 cattle and calves on feed April 1, 1972, a 5 percent decline from a year ago. Placements on feed numbered 40,000 in the first quarter of 1972 compared with 48,000 for that quarter last year. Marketings of fed cattle totaled 54,000 from January through March, a decrease of 11 percent from the same period in 1971.

Wisconsin cattle feeders intend to market 53,000 finished cattle in the second quarter of this year, down 13 percent from the marketings for April through June a year ago. These marketing intentions do not include any animals that may be placed on feed after April 1 and marketed before July 1, 1972.

Cattle and calves on feed April 1 for slaughter market totaled 12,792,000 in the 23 major feeding states, up 9 percent from a year earlier. The North Central States, including Wisconsin, had 6 percent more cattle on feed April 1 than a year ago. Iowa, the biggest feeding state in this region, was up 1 percent while Nebraska, the second ranking state, showed an increase of 11 percent.

The 10 Western States had 14 percent more cattle and calves on feed April 1 than a year earlier. Texas, the largest Western feeding state, was up 19 percent from April 1 last year. California also had an increase of 19 percent.

Cattle and Calves on Feed by Quarters,
April 1, 1971, January 1, and April 1, 1972 1/

State	April 1, 1971	January 1, 1972	April 1, 1972	Change from last year
1,000 head				
Pennsylvania	79	91	81	+ 3
Ohio	285	320	288	+ 1
Indiana	280	327	297	+ 6
Illinois	601	662	605	+ 1
Michigan	209	230	211	+ 1
Wisconsin	137	144	130	- 5
Minnesota	513	537	492	- 4
Iowa	2,043	2,112	2,063	+ 1
Missouri	318	373	318	n. c.
N. Dakota	54	52	53	- 2
S. Dakota	342	363	325	- 5
Nebraska	1,312	1,550	1,456	+ 11
Kansas	780	1,100	1,050	+ 35
N. C. States	6,953	7,861	7,369	+ 6
Oklahoma	242	253	256	+ 6
Texas	1,563	1,781	1,854	+ 19
Montana	120	165	150	+ 25
Idaho	215	265	227	+ 6
Colorado	876	983	947	+ 8
N. Mexico	163	188	196	+ 20
Arizona	497	539	547	+ 10
Washington	165	168	170	+ 3
Oregon	62	82	59	- 5
California	856	1,045	1,017	+ 19
Western States	4,759	5,469	5,423	+ 14
23 States	11,712	13,330	12,792	+ 9

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals fattened for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates which are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

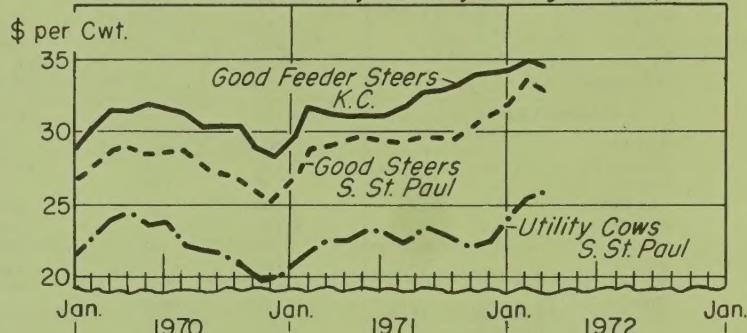
BEEF CATTLE PRICES REMAIN STRONG

Prices of good grade steers weighing between 900 and 1,100 pounds averaged \$32.89 a hundredweight at the St. Paul market for March, down 50 cents from a month earlier but nearly \$4.00 higher than the previous year. Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$25.88 a hundredweight during March, up 68 cents from February and \$3.34 above March 1971. Good grade

feeder steers at Kansas City averaged \$34.75 a hundredweight in March a slight decline of 21 cents from February but \$3.29 more than last year.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES

S. St. Paul & Kansas City Monthly Averages 1970, 71, 72

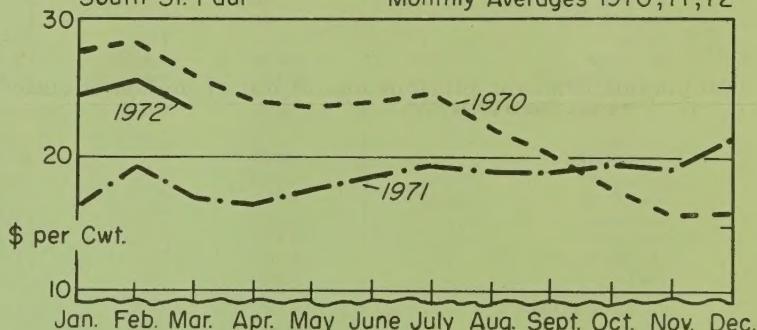


HOG MARKET LOWER

Barrow and gilt prices at the St. Paul market averaged \$23.49 a hundredweight in March, a decline of \$2.11 from February. This was the first drop in the barrow and gilt average price since November last year. However, the March price was \$6.45 above a year ago.

BARROW and GILT PRICES

South St. Paul Monthly Averages 1970, 71, 72



RED MEAT OUTPUT ABOVE YEAR EARLIER

Production of red meat in Wisconsin's commercial slaughter plants during February was 10½ percent more than in the previous year. Some of the increase in red meat production was due to the extra day in February this year. Wisconsin plants produced 96 million pounds of red meat in February, 9 million pounds greater than a year ago but 1½ million pounds less than in January. Output of beef for February was up 24 percent from last year but the supply of pork declined 4 percent.

Cattle slaughter for February totaled 90,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous year. Average liveweight of cattle was 1,139 pounds in February, 5 pounds heavier than a year earlier. The February hog kill of 273,000 was 13,000 less than in that month of 1971. At 232 pounds average liveweight hogs were 2 pounds heavier than in February last year.

Calf slaughter during February totaled 28,000, up 1,500 from a year ago. This was the first time that calf slaughter exceeded the previous year since June 1971. The average liveweight of calves was 144 pounds in February, up 6 pounds from a year earlier. Only 100 sheep and lambs were butchered during February, the same as in February 1971.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number		Liveweight		
	February		Change from last year	February	
	1971	1972		1971	1972
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin	73.0	90.0	+ 23	82.8	102.5
United States 1/ . .	2,616.8	2,774.1	+ 6	2,727.0	2,900.0
Calves					
Wisconsin	26.5	28.0	+ 6	3.7	4.0
United States 1/ . .	306.8	276.6	- 10	72.6	66.8
Hogs					
Wisconsin	286.0	273.0	- 5	65.8	63.3
United States 1/ . .	7,029.3	6,828.8	- 3	1,647.2	1,600.8
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin1	.1	n. c.	.009	.010
United States 1/ . .	834.0	830.9	n. c.	90.8	89.7

1/Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

LESS MEAT IN STORAGE THAN A YEAR AGO

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of March were 11 percent less than in the previous year. Beef supplies were down 9 percent and pork stocks were 18 percent lower than on March 31, 1971.

There were about 275 million pounds of beef in cold storage at the end of March, 34 million pounds less than a month earlier and 27 million pounds under last year. Pork holdings amounted to about 316 million pounds, up 28 million pounds from the previous month but 71 million pounds less than on March 31, 1971.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat
United States

Commodity	Mar. 31, 1970	Mar. 31, 1971	Feb. 29, 1972	Mar. 31, 1972	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef:					
Frozen	368,260	293,462	298,578	265,895	- 9
In cure and cured	11,307	8,601	9,813	8,892	+ 3
Total	379,567	302,063	308,391	274,787	- 9
Pork:					
Frozen	244,156	359,562	264,538	295,363	- 18
In cooler	24,348	27,433	22,875	20,272	- 26
Total	268,504	386,995	287,413	315,635	- 18
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen	11,403	8,887	8,006	8,788	- 1
Lamb and mutton, frozen	21,794	20,403	12,642	11,553	- 43
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams	43,363	51,580	70,446	71,151	+ 38
Other meats	19,319	119,185	20,733	21,566	- 82
Total, all meats	743,950	789,113	707,631	703,480	- 11

Wisconsin Dairy Calf Disposition, 1970-71

Disposition	1971 By Quarters				Total 1971	Total 1970
	Jan. - March	April - June	July - Sept.	Oct. - Dec.		
Percent						
Kept for herd replacement	36	41	42	41	40	40
Kept for dairy beef	12	13	12	11	12	12
Sold	43	38	40	40	40	40
Other	9	8	6	8	8	8

1971 LIVESTOCK MARKETINGS UP BUT CASH RECEIPTS LOWER

Although the total pounds of meat animals marketed by Wisconsin farmers during 1971 were up nearly 3 percent from 1970, cash receipts were down about 4 percent. Cash receipts from the sale of cattle, calves, hogs, and sheep and lambs totaled \$369 million for 1971. Prices received in 1971 for calves averaged \$39.80 a hundredweight, a record high. The average price of \$22.50 a hundredweight for cattle in 1971 was the highest since 1951.

Hogs averaged \$17.80 a hundredweight for 1971, a decline of \$4.70 from the previous year and the lowest since 1964. Average prices received for sheep and lambs in 1971 were lower than in 1970 but were above the level of recent years.

On the pound basis, marketings of cattle and calves in 1971 were slightly under a year earlier but cash receipts increased 3 percent. Total pounds of hogs marketed in 1971 were 7 percent above 1970. However, because of lower prices in the first three quarters of the year, cash receipts from the sale of hogs in 1971 were 15 percent less than in 1970.

Marketings of sheep and lambs during 1971 were down 18 percent from the previous year on the pound basis, while cash receipts for sheep and lambs showed a decline of 16 percent.

Weather Summary, March 1972

Station	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Low	High	Mean	Normal	For month	Normal
Amery	- 17	50	23	26	.97	1.34
Superior	- 13	48	19	25	1.24	1.52
Spooner	- 26	55	23	26	.78	1.28
Park Falls	- 14	69	23	25	2.29	1.47
Rhineland	- 23	53	22	25	2.39	1.49
Medford	- 20	50	21	26	2.21	1.70
Marinette	- 6	46	26	30	3.02	1.54
Antigo	- 19	53	23	27	2.07	1.44
River Falls	- 15	50	26	28	1.17	1.70
La Crosse	- 12	58	28	31	1.68	2.07
Hatfield Dam	- 19	53	25	28	2.29	1.64
Marshfield	- 11	45	23	27	2.63	1.62
Hancock	- 13	48	25	28	1.72	1.43
Green Bay	- 12	47	24	28	2.19	1.34
Oshkosh	- 5	48	26	30	2.42	1.57
Sheboygan	0	48	29	32	2.10	1.98
Manitowoc	- 2	49	27	31	2.10	1.99
Lancaster	- 5	59	30	32	2.15	2.16
Darlington	- 2	60	31	33	1.82	1.95
Hillsboro	- 7	56	27	30	.97	1.88
Portage	- 7	55	29	32	2.15	1.86
Madison	- 2	61	29	30	2.23	1.84
Beloit	+ 2	65	34	35	2.22	1.94
Lake Geneva	+ 2	65	30	34	4.52	2.55
Milwaukee (airport)	+ 5	58	28	31	2.57	2.31
Average for 24 stations	- 10	56	27	30	2.16	1.82

DAIRY CALF USE UNCHANGED

Dairy producers indicated a calf disposition unchanged from a year ago when their quarterly reports are summarized. The strong demand for feeders and veal is shown in sales during the first quarter as well as in the last 2 quarters.

**PRICES RECEIVED
INDEX UP**

Higher prices for meat animals and milk resulted in the prices received index for Wisconsin farm products showing an increase of 26 points from mid-March last year. At 363 percent of the 1910-14 base, the prices received index for the month ending March 15 was 2 points higher than a month earlier.

After increasing for three months, hog prices declined from February to March but were still well above last year. Hogs averaged \$23.10 a hundredweight for mid-March, down \$2.00 from February but \$6.00 higher than March 1971.

Steers and heifers averaged \$31.60 a hundredweight at mid-March, up 10 cents from the previous month and \$3.80 above a year ago. Slaughter cows, at \$24.00 a hundredweight on March 15, were \$1.00 higher than February and \$3.50 more than last year.

Calf prices showed another increase. Calves averaged \$46.50 a hundredweight for March, the highest ever for any month. The mid-March calf price was up 70 cents from February and \$8.50 above the previous year.

Lambs averaged \$27.00 a hundredweight for March 15, an increase of 30 cents from a month earlier and \$1.50 above March 1971. Sheep, at \$5.90 a hundredweight for March, were 40 cents higher than February but 10 cents under last year.

Egg prices increased 4 cents a dozen from February to March. At 27 cents a dozen for mid-March, eggs were 1 cent

lower than a year ago. Turkeys averaged 22 cents a pound live-weight as of March 15, down 1 cent from the previous month but 1 cent more than March 1971.

Corn prices gained 1 cent a bushel from February to March. However, the mid-March corn price of \$1.13 a bushel was 31 cents below a year earlier. Oats also increased 1 cent a bushel from February to March, but at 72 cents a bushel on March 15 oats was 2 cents under last year. Soybeans averaged \$3.15 a bushel at mid-March, the highest price for that date since 1948. Soybeans rose 20 cents a bushel from February to March and were 38 cents above March last year.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	March 1970	March 1971	February 1972	March 1972
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	360.00	385.00	415.00	420.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	28.00	27.80	31.50	31.60
Cows	Cwt.	22.30	20.50	23.00	24.00
Calves	Cwt.	40.00	38.00	45.80	46.50
Hogs	Cwt.	25.70	17.10	25.10	23.10
Sheep	Cwt.	8.00	6.00	5.50	5.90
Lambs	Cwt.	27.00	25.50	26.70	27.00
Wool	Lb.	.36	.27	.24	.27
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.080	.075	.085	.090
Turkeys	Lb.	.270	.210	.230	.220
Eggs	Doz.	.430	.280	.230	.270
Corn	Bu.	1.12	1.44	1.12	1.13
Oats	Bu.	.64	.74	.71	.72
Soybeans	Bu.	2.40	2.77	2.95	3.15
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	20.50	21.50	23.00	23.00

1/Excludes broilers.

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